

SME Steering Group - Cumbria

Meeting 15 – 29.9.16, React Engineering, Cleator Moor

MINUTES

Attendees

SMEs: Deputy Chair: Mike Nichols (MN) PacTec Bob Allison (BA) Meldrum Ltd Ian Park (IP) Park Gate Phil Redfern (PR) React Engineering Kurt Canfield (KC) Safety Critical	Support Org /guests Les Turner (LT) Morgan Sindall on behalf of Tier 2 Governance Group Adrienne Easterbrook (AE), Nuclear Graduates Alex Smith (AS), Sellafield Chris George (CG) Amec FW Janet Addison (JA) Cumbria LEP Sarah Mitchell (SM) Copeland BC
SLCs: Robert Astall (RA)	NDA: Pippa Kelly (PK), Ron Gorham (RG)
Apologies: Andy Hooper Westlakes Engineering, Pete Woolaghan React, Terry Meighan Blue Stream Consulting, Martin Chown Sellafield, Sam Dancy NDA, Sarah Purdham - Prima Uno, Mark Watters – Carillion, Claire Wilcock – Westlakes Recruit, Chris Jennings NDA, Mark Watters Carillion	

1 Introductions & review o/s actions

Actions 1 – 4 documented below

Q on R&D on the Estate. SLC specific requirements handled by SLC, speculative R&D handled by NDA & Innovate UK. Information shared between groups.

2 Intellectual Property - Alex Smith, Sellafield

Explanation given on flowdowns. Plan to rationalise flowdowns further.

3 Sellafield /SSA - Robert Astall, Commercial Director

End of reprocessing on SL means Thorp will close in 3-4 years therefore focus will change to decommissioning. Development on going to transform SL with a reduction in direct employees over the next few years to a supply chain led balance giving a more agile aim to work.

External strategic (transformation)partners will be focusing on supporting the 23 programmes, looking for the value streams. Programme & Project Delivery Partner is being recruited to support SL on delivering Project Management, Project Controls and Commercial. Market research and tech dialogue completed, next step to complete Governance & approach the market shortly.

Spend stats show £72m direct SME spend over 2015/16. Breakdown is 36% Cumbrian SMEs, 12% North West and 52% rest of UK.

RG added that suppliers must be agile and prepared to work in other Decomm industries and locations in future.

4 SSA – RG

SSA now recruiting 16 full time members to drive the changes to Collaborative Procurement. Aim to bring standardisation to supply chain of PQQs, quality standards, bonds, insurances, contracts etc. SSA will also be subject to the Pan-Estate SME Agenda to published by NDA in November.

5 NDA Update – RG

Key topics in Gov – SMEs, Growth and Skills. Gov target for SME over this parliament remains 33%, NDA target 31%. New target for Gov depts. to achieve 3m new apprentices by 2020, NDA in discussion over how to implement this with shrinking workforce, whether this can be extended into the supply chain. Following Gov reshuffle, NDA report to BEIS (Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy).

SME Steering Group - Cumbria

Meeting 15 – 29.9.16, React Engineering, Cleator Moor

Changes within NDA include retirement of John Clarke during 2017, change to Chairman – Stephen Henwood who has reached the end of 2nd term with NDA and Peter Lutwyche who will be moving back to Jacobs this year.

Update on litigation with Energy Solutions – NDA seeking leave to Appeal with Supreme court.

6 Nuclear Graduates Presentation – Adrienne Easterbrook

Presentation will be circulated to those who attended the meeting

7 Sellafield Supply Chain Coalition (SSCC) – Chris George, Amec FW

Chris George presented details of a tool developed by the group to enable companies applying for work at Sellafield to ensure they understand and meet the best practice required. This is not a pre-qualification but a helpful tool. 20 companies have signed up and more are interested in joining the group. Minimum admin costs only to join the group. Copies of the presentation will be circulated. For more information or to join the group, contact Chair :

Paul.Unsworth@cavendishnuclear.com. The tool is accessible here :

<http://www.sellafieldsites.com/2014/08/the-sellafield-supply-chain-coalition-sscc-is-looking-for-new-members/>

8 Tier2 Governance Group – Socio Economic sub group

Group are looking at how to improve the methods of supporting SME involvement and are looking at methods to share information and best practice. Presentation will be circulated.

Discussion progressed to methods of advertising opportunities – NDA working on methods to include Tier2 tender opportunities on CTM (Contract Tender Management). This avoids costs being incurred by the supply chain from using 3rd party systems.

Action : Morgan Sindall to discuss possible pilot of CTM – LT/SD

9 Outstanding Actions – see above points where applicable

CoNE not yet invited – KC to follow up when the revised group are formed

New Actions :

Action : Group to review the Innovation Guide produced by Northern group and FAQ's from the Welsh and Southern groups, to include the Tips for SMEs from Sellafield and from Compete4– MN, KC

Action : Clarification on how SME data is collected by flow chart and published on website – SD

Action : Top 20 direct SME's used by the Estate to be published (as are Tier2) – SD

Action : A 'local' SME spend figure to be investigated in conjunction with the SLC - SD

Action : Invite NuGen to join the group and discuss with CoNE invitation to BAe – MN/KC

Action : simplified 'plain english' version of IP explanation to be prepared with caveats for inclusion in the revised Innovation Guide and on website – AS, SD

Action : Any issues with IP handling by Tier2 companies to be forwarded to SLCs either direct or through this group

Action : Invite Helen Fisher, SL to discuss Socio Economics – RA

Action : Encourage closer ties with Tier2 Governance Group - LT

Action : Any company interested in offering 6mth placement to a nuclear graduate to contact AE for more information

10 AOB

RG offered to support any proposals the group have for running or supporting any local event.

JA pointed out that the LEP Growth Hub will be looking at a model to support the Nuclear Industry but no further information will be available until after the Government Autumn Statement.